temples were not unusual. If the Basilica Julia has its length from north to south, and consequently its flank along the west side of the forum, this fragment comes in to fill up the space through which the Vicus Jugarius ran, and actually brings us up to the eight columns. This may be taken as a kind of reflective evidence of the eight columns belonging to the Temple of Saturn; and I must say, that, putting aside all envy and jealousy, I shall be glad to learn from our learned traveller, Mr. Tite, when he comes to give us the result of his observations, whether this said Basilica had its elevation towards the Forum or its flank; if the former, then our fragment VRNI will fail us, and we must still rest the claims of Saturn upon the other arguments. But we have another remarkable passage of the Monumentum Ancyranum, which says, "Forum Julium et Basilicam quæ fuit inter ædem Castoris et ædem Saturni." The Temple of Castor and Pollux, and the Temple of Saturn were, according to this monumental inscription, divided by the Basilica; now the Temple of Castor was that which Caligula turned into a portico for his Augustan House, which all agree overlooked the south side of the Forum, and which must have been very near, if not identified with, the large square brick building usually called the Curia. A line drawn across the Forum would come to the eight columns, and cut the Basilica Julia longitudinally, and answer exactly to the Ancyra inscription; and thus we should obtain a third fixed angle of the Forum beneath the Tarpeian rock, and behind the present Church of Madonna della Consolazione, and gain another particle of evidence for driving Fortune away, and bringing back Saturn to his own again. Now if we adhere to the Vitruvian precepts, which teach that Basilicæ are to be placed near, that is, on the sides of the open area of the Forum, we may now walk round the Campo Vaccino (the name applied to the sacred ground ever since Poggio's buffaloes) and adjust the limits. On the east side, measuring from the arch of Sept. Severus to the site of the Fabian arch, there are 400 feet. The Basilica Emilia, and another Basilica of the same name, used by the Roman Municipia as a guard-house, have long had peaceable possession of the east side of the Forum, and we are here denied the pleasure of disputing. Proceeding from the S.E. angle, we pass along the south side under the Palatine Hill, until we have measured from the supposed site of the Fabian arch 500 feet, which will bring us to the west side of the square brick building called the Domus Caligulæ: fixing our S.W. angle there, and completing the parallelogram, we are brought to the Madonna della Consolazione, where I should very much like to leave you all, as some sort of recompense for the weary chase I have led you.

Perhaps there is no portion of ground in the world which has been put to such ingenious torture by the skill of restoring architects as the space I have gone over. I believe it will be allowed that architects in all countries build more castles in the air than on solid ground; but in Rome, since the apostolic coffers have been emptied by a variety of vicissitudes, and the popes who patronized the arts have ceased to exist, the architects have nowhere to build but in the air; and hence the pleasure they take in putting inflexible and tasteless antiquaries to the torture by filling up a space which authors say was clear, and driving into a corner a most classical monument because it was not of the right dimensions for completing a general plan. I may just add, that I agree with the direction Canina has given to the three *viæ* which led into the Forum from the Velabrum—the Via Nova under the Palatine Hill, the Vicus Jugarius under the Capitol, and the Vicus Tuscus in the middle.

I may not proceed to make any further experiments upon your patience, by passing to any other objects in and around the forum than those I have already treated of. Every inch of that classic ground must ever be interesting to the Institute of British Architects; but every inch must be contended for by the topographer and the antiquary: such discussions are for the most part tedious to all but antiquaries: the architect has the pleasing task of laying out his plan from the discovered angle of a wall, and rearing his edifice in due proportion: from the section of a column he can erect his portico, and fill up his tympanum with Niobe and her children, and crown the angles of his pediment with statues of gods and heroes, for which a medal will give him authority. The poor office of antiquary is to put the inscription on the frieze, which few will care to read when enraptured with the indescribable harmony which reigns in architectural proportion. I cannot, however, omit this opportunity, as a humble labourer in that field, to solicit your votes and interest in favour of Vespasian and old Saturn, against the next general election of those temples on the Clivus, to serve in a representation of the ruins of Rome; and in doing this, I am running the risk of being charged with deserting my former constituents, for in my "Antiquities of Rome," although I had the prudence to leave the question somewhat open, I did incline for Jupiter Tonans and Fortune. Nay more, by a reference to my chapter on the "Roman Forum," it will be seen that I split my vote between Vespasian and Jupiter, and showed the greatest anxiety to find space for Saturn; but antiquaries, like all other responsible advisers, must be allowed to alter their opinions when fresh proofs are excavated, new diggings opened, and circumstances are changed. Some of the Italian professors, whose theories will never be able to stand against the evidence of the discovered basilica, have not yet brought themselves to acknowledge that it *is* the basilica; and they wait in hopes it may lead to some building of the middle ages, and so maintain the theory of Nardini's forum. I confess, although the discovery interferes somewhat with my preconceived and, what is worse, my published notions, I think it prudent to yield in time. It is long before we give up conservative principles; and an old opinion is often retained for the sake of consistency long after we have ceased to think it infallible. It is an admirable provision in our moral constitution, that men should be attached to the traditions of their fathers, for this often prevents rash innovations, not only in the names of temples, but of churches and constitutions: at the same time, we have long learned to reject the maxim that what is is best, for with this we might go on sanctioning error which had become hoary by time; and looking upon all reform and improvements as elements of destruction, we might have refused to entertain the notion of a Crystal Palace because Vitruvius spoke of nothing but peperine stone and marble; and if, as professors of civil architecture, we had kept to the narrow streets and gable ends of olden time, we might still have had a six-bedded room and a back kitchen for a model lodging-house. It is evident that both in the material and intellectual departments we are to innovate, but innovate with all the advantages of what has gone before,—to know well the discoveries and works of genius which others have produced before us,—and starting from the platform which others have erected, rear our Pantheon in air, which was before on the ground.

I am aware that this paper is more of a topographical than an architectural description, and for such I ought to crave your indulgence while occupying your time in gratifying myself; but as I have had the honour to remark before now, the very names of the Forum and the Capitol are always a passport to your attention; for whether it be the Temple of Jupiter or of Saturn, whether it be the Basilica Julia or the Temple of Concord, it is still Vitruvius—that perpetual President of an Architectural Society. Whatever may be the diversity of tastes and pursuits, if they be refined they must all meet in the Roman Forum: there the painter loves to use his pencil, under the deep blue sky by which the time-worn ruins are arched: there the sculptor loves to linger over the exquisite fragments which time has spared to excite his admiration and his envy: there the disciple of Palladio, and the ardent admirer of Michael-angelo's bold genius, grows into the proportions of the things around him; whilst the classical scholar whose youthful imagination has led him to form ideas of the Forum as colossal as the deeds with which its fame is emblazoned, stands astonished at the narrow limits within which such scenes were acted; and what neither painter, nor sculptor, nor architect supplies to his fancy, the poet sings to the balmy breeze standing on the Capitol—

> Did the conquerors heap
> Their spoils here? Yes: and in yon field below
> A thousand years of silenced factions sleep.—
> The Forum, where the immortal accents glow,
> And still the eloquent air breathes—burns with,
> Cicero.

RICHARD BURGESS, B.D.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

Deddington.—Clifton chapel of ease, in connection with Deddington Church, will, it is expected, be open for divine service in about two months. It is dedicated to St. James, is built of stone dug in the neighbourhood, and is covered with Stoneafield slates. Messrs. Buckler, of Oxford, are the architects, and the style is Early English. The cost is estimated at about 1,000*l.* of which 700*l.* will be contributed, it is said, by the Rev. W. C. Risley, of Deddington.

Carisbrooke (Isle of Wight).—The sloping meadow adjoining the historical ruins of Carisbrooke Castle, near the village of Carisbrooke, has been advertised to be sold off in building lots by public auction.

Winchester.—Several ancient mural paintings have been discovered on the north wall of the ancient church of St. John, Winchester. The subject represented in the portion at present discovered appears to be the Crucifixion. Christ is represented as being fastened to a cross, not of the Roman shape, but that of St. Andrew. The two thieves are represented. An apostle or saint appears to be looking towards heaven, and a woman is in an attitude of adoration at the foot of the crucified thief on the right hand. The Saviour and the apostle have their heads surrounded by the *nimbus*. The work of restoration is being carried on.

Worcester.—Some house property at Wick lately sold at twenty-five years' purchase. A piece of ground at Chaddesley Corbett has also been sold at forty-four years' purchase on the gross rental.

Devonport.—The foundation-stone of the new market here (Mr. J. P. St. Aubyn, architect, and Mr. T. Clift, builder) was laid on Tuesday in last week. The clerk of works is Mr. T. Galbraith.

Aberdare.—The new church of Aberdare is nearly completed. It will cost about 4,000*l.* and will accommodate 700 persons. Mr. A. Mosely, of London, is the architect, and Mr. G. N. Strawbridge, of Clifton, the builder.

Lavernock.—The church of Lavernock, in the diocese of Llandaff, has been rebuilt and re-opened. The design was furnished by Mr. Corbett, who superintended the rebuilding.

Stratford-on-Avon.—The interior walls of the chapel of the Guild of Holy Cross, have been recently cleansed, and the windows painted to resemble cathedral glass. The exterior is falling into decay; but it is understood that the Corporation are about to repair and renovate it. The interior has been decorated with a carved oak screen, extending the whole width of the chapel, and containing nine panels, the arches filled with tracery, surmounted with pierced work, and crested with the Tudor flower. The design, which includes various scrolls, texts, and other details, was furnished by Mr. William Ward, of Stratford-on-Avon, and was executed by him and his brother, Mr. John Ward, artist. A stained-glass east window has also been put up. It contains five lights, and as many subjects: 1. Our Lord's Baptism. 2. Prayer. 3. Crucifixion. 4. Resurrection. 5. Ascension. Each subject is in an ornamented canopy, and placed upon a bracket, with an inscription under it. The design is also by Mr. William Ward, and was executed by Messrs. Chance, Birmingham.

Kinrar (Staffordshire).—A new school has lately been opened here, affording accommodation for 250 children. The building has

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